

Remarks

In response the Office Communication mailed June 25, 2004, Applicant is submitting herewith a preliminary amendment to provide a set of claims that takes into account the election of Group I claims. The amendment also restores previously canceled claims as new claims.

By this amendment, all nonelected claims have been canceled.

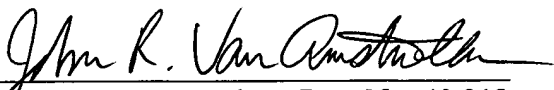
New claims 66-79 have been added. New claims 66-69 correspond to original claims 5-8. New claims 70-72 correspond to original claims 10-12. New claims 73-79 correspond to original claims 14-20. As a result, claims 1-4, 9, 13 and 66-79 are now pending for examination, all of which correspond to elected Group I. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application should now be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this amendment, that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
Nishikawa et al., Applicant


John R. Van Amsterdam, Reg. No. 40,212
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, MA 02210-2211
(617) 720-3500

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